THE DISSEMINATOR

Nova Scotia Provincial Library

ISSN:1209-2473

THEDISSEMINATOR ISSN:1208-2473
V.6, N.11 November 1999
An electronic newsletter from the Nova Scotia Provincial Library
http://www.library.ns.ca/provlib/disseminator/

3770 Kempt Road, Halifax, Nova Scotia, B3K 4X8
(902) 424-2457; FAX (902) 424-0633

To subscribe to THE DISSEMINATOR, send a message to listserv@nshpl.library.ns.ca and enter the following text in the body of the message: **subscribe dissem-list yourfirstname yourlastname**. Comments on or suggestions for THE DISSEMINATOR should be directed to Gillian Webster at webstegs@gov.ns.ca

IN THIS ISSUE:

News from the Regions
School Library Consultant Interview
Visit of the National Librarian
Donation from the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation
Gates Center for Technology Access
Council of Youth Services Meeting
Automation Working Group Meeting
Information Economy Initiative (IEI)
Nova Scotia Provincial Library News
Library Public Awareness Meeting
Staffing Notes
Training Notes
Hot Tips and Updates

COLUMNS

Reference on the Net
LINKed
Professional Reading

NEWS FROM THE REGIONS

Colchester-East Hants Regional Library (CEHRL)

The Community Access Program (CAP) has added sites at the Stewiacke and Indian Brook branches recently.

2008-00050/

The Indian Brook site is already operating and has been receiving about 60 visitors per day in its first month. It is a native community in Hants East and has the largest youth population of any reserve in Nova Scotia. This reserve has also set up its own school which is close to the Youth Center where the CAP site is situated. Training will be a large part of the CAP site for the first six months and a part-time coordinator has been hired to help the community go on-line. The Stewiacke branch CAP site will be up and running shortly.

The Cobequid Community Garden refers to the Truro Branch Library as its "community base" from all the help that the branch has provided to get this project going. By October the garden was wrapping up and 1200 pounds of extra food had been given to the food bank and the annual meeting at the library was in planning stages. The children's program had come to the library and taken out "The Wizard of Oz", borrowed Oz books and created a large Wizard of Oz garden complete with painted yellow bricks for a pathway. Many of the younger generation read the book and saw the movie for the first time. The six foot Dorothy with red yard hair and large tin man were true works of art. Several staff were asked to join in judging the gardens and the library gained some new young patrons.

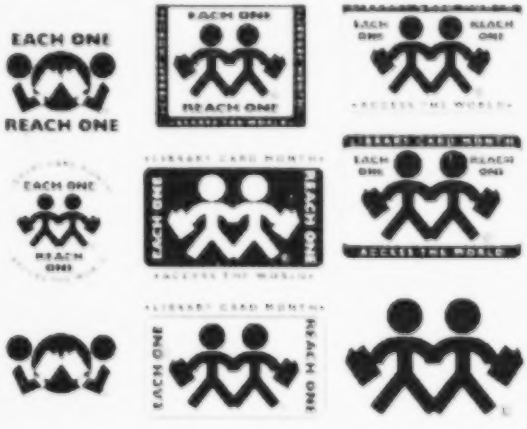
Colchester held its sixth Community Economic Development Conference on November 13. The theme was the revitalization of the downtown core of Truro. The Truro Branch Library is in the heart of Truro so the discussions were of great interest to the library staff who attended. Library staff provided a display of materials and produced pamphlets and bookmarks for the participants and staffed the Colchester Adult Literacy Association booth (the library maintains a director on this board). Response to the variety and the number of current books available from the library was very positive.

Western Counties Regional Library

Western Counties Regional Library (WCRL) marked its 30th Anniversary with an open house at headquarters on October 28. Board Chair Gary Archibald and Regional Director Trudy Amirault opened the day with a cake cutting ceremony. Along with refreshments the open house consisted of library exhibits, a video, and library tours. A reporter from the Vanguard was on hand for one of the many tours which resulted in a photo layout in the Nov 2nd issue of the newspaper.

The launch of *Come to Supper II: More Favourite Recipes from Southwestern Nova Scotia*, sponsored by Sobeys, was a tremendous success. On launch day, Oct. 23rd, over half of the 1,500 books printed were sold! A subsequent introduction on Breakfast Television and a series of cooking shows on local cable stations in Digby, Shelburne, and Yarmouth counties have kept sales brisk. Organizers anticipate a sell-out by Christmas. To order your copy contact Yvonne at (902) 742-2486 or e-mail ansy@nsy.library.ns.ca This appetizing collection of 'comfort food' sells for $12.00 - taxes are included.

Part of WCRL's fundraising plans this year include a "Cozy Reading Corner" promotion, sponsored by Rogers Furniture, and the prize is a romantic "booknook". Ticket sales began on November 15 across the region. The draw date is February 14, 2000. The Cozy Reading Corner consists of : One La-Z-Boy chair, a 5x8 area rug, book case, books, magazine rack/table, brass reading lamp, afghan, and various knick-knacks. Anticipated revenue is $3,000.



The second annual Library Card Month, sponsored by Cameron Publications, concluded on September 30 with 741 new members. Although the number was shy of the goal of 1,000, organizers determined that the true value of the campaign lies in the heightened awareness of the libraries in our region, the services provided with a free library card, and a gentle reminder that library cards do expire.

SCHOOL LIBRARY CONSULTANT INTERVIEW

New kid on the block : an interview with Jessica MacLennan by Mary Louise Mills, Teacher-Librarian, Queen Elizabeth High School & St. Patrick's High School

Jessica, perhaps we should start with the title of your new position here in the Department of Education, and to whom do you report, specifically? - School Library Consultant reporting to Bob LeBlanc, Director of English Program Services.

So, that's Curriculum. That's curriculum, and that is where you will find the curriculum consultants like Language Arts, Social Studies, etc.

What prompted you to apply for this position? I'm interested in school libraries and I feel that I'm at a stage in my career where I have a fair amount of expertise, and I thought I would like to try to have some influence on the situation.

What particular assets do you see yourself bringing to this position? Well, first of all, I've worked in a wide range of libraries which some people might not feel is an asset to school libraries but I think it really is an asset at a time when we are all going to have to try to work together, particularly in terms of things like funding. We really need to have a close working relationship. I have good contacts around the province in the different libraries. I've worked for approximately 15 years in schools libraries - in P through grade 12, and in two teacher-training institutions and a public library where I worked quite closely with schools, so I feel that I've had a long association with schools, both as an on-the-site school librarian and as an itinerant librarian and in administration.

So that's a pretty varied background in terms of experience. Now, what kind of a formal education have you got? I have a Bachelor of Arts from Saint Francis Xavier and a Master of Library Science from Dalhousie University.

And what involvement do you have in professional organizations? Well, I belong to the Canadian School Library Association (CSLA), the Association for Teacher-Librarianship in Canada (ATLC), the American Association of School Librarians (AASL), and the International Association of School Librarianship (IASL), as well as belonging to various provincial associations like the B.C. Teacher-Librarians Association.

There are very few professional teacher-librarians outside of the metro area. Is there any way that this can be addressed from your position? Or even the lack of professionals in supervisory capacities over libraries? Hiring staff is a board decision and I would have no involvement in that; however, I think that it's important to have an infrastructure within the school library system. There are various categories of people within school libraries and each one has a role to play.

Just as the public library and community college libraries have an infrastructure within their boards, I feel that this would be a useful system to follow within school boards. And I'd like to see district school librarians - the recognition of somebody with library background as being in charge. This would resolve a great number of our difficulties. I have an official contact in every board and these people are interested and would like to do something but it's only a small percent of their job.

Some provinces have developed strong, supportive documents on school libraries. Do you see any direction in terms of that? Is this part of your mandate? I have an advisory and consultative role on school library issues within the Department and to school boards and to other education partners such as regional libraries, universities, and community colleges. The subject curriculum consultants also have a mandate to write, pilot and implement the curriculum. I'm working on a document on school libraries that is going to be a handbook. What I see is a tremendous need for some kind of guidelines for the different stakeholders in school libraries - what their roles and responsibilities are. We may have this in some areas but we don't have it

everywhere. So that is my main thrust.

As professionals, we are always concerned with getting the best value for our limited funds. Do you have any concerns about who is actually doing the selection of these curriculum and library resources? Yes, I have concerns. There is a need for written criteria to assist with selecting library resources.

Is that something else that will be incorporated into a document - a selection policy? Most boards are developing selection policies already. These policies will be helpful as new schools are planned and built.

Perhaps we should close with a few more personal notes - do you have a role model or mentor? Yes, Marjorie McDowell, former Chief Librarian at the former Teachers' College, Truro, and a former teacher-librarian from New Brunswick. That was my first professional job. And also Bryan Savege, [who readers may recall won the Online Public Access Catalog competition a few years ago, by naming the new system NcompasS] retired teacher-librarian from Shelburne County was another role model.

What are your favourite professional journals and what is your favourite book? I've always enjoyed *School Library Journal*, *Resource Links*, *Canadian Materials* and I really like *School Libraries in Canada*. I've always liked British writers and my two favourite are Anthony Trollope and Barbara Pym, and my favourite book is *The Way We Live Now*, by Anthony Trollope.

VISIT OF THE NATIONAL LIBRARIAN

The recently appointed National Librarian, Roch Carrier, visited Halifax on November 30, as part of his cross country tour, which started November 18 in Vancouver and ended in December in Moncton. While in Halifax he toured several school, public and university libraries, participated in a "town hall" meeting to hear from the many library sectors represented in Nova Scotia, and met local librarians at a reception held in the Legislative Library.

One of Roch Carrier's stops in Nova Scotia was at the Terence Bay Elementary School, where he was met in the library by an enthusiastic Clifford the Dog.

Roch Carrier visited the Sir John A. MacDonald High School in Halifax and met with some of his fans in the library.

Thanks for making this a successful trip go to a number of Atlantic organizations, including Acadia University, Atlantic Provinces Library Association, Canadian Association of Special Libraries, Halifax Library Association, Novanet, Nova Scotia Community College, Nova Scotia Library Association, St. Mary's University, School of Library and Information Studies, Dalhousie University and Teacher-Librarians' Association of Nova Scotia. Special thanks to the Nova Scotia Legislative Library for sponsoring the reception.

DONATION FROM THE BILL AND MELINDA GATES FOUNDATION

The Minister of Education announced on November 23 that the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation has donated $809,000 to 56 of the province's public libraries. The money will fund 114 Internet workstations and pay for regional library training centres in Halifax, Truro, Yarmouth and Sydney, starting next spring. Separately, Microsoft Canada will donate software with a retail value of $327,000 to the libraries receiving grants. The regional libraries have a choice of ordering the computers directly from Gateway, the Foundations partner in the project, or using the money to buy the workstations locally. The package provided by Gateway is very impressive. The computers (Pentium III/600 MHZ) are fully loaded with software (Windows NT, Office 2000, Bookshelf 2000, Internet Explorer, Encarta Reference Suite 2000, Encarta Africana 2000, and Norton Virus scan) and come with extensive training and support manuals. Libraries buying locally will be required to purchase equipment that is comparable in quality and capacity and will not receive the software from Microsoft.

The number of workstations provided to each eligible library is based on the population of each community. Each library also receives a printer. Those libraries receiving 4 or more workstations also receive a web server to promote the development of digital information. For more information, visit the website at http://www.gatesfoundation.org

GATES CENTER FOR TECHNOLOGY ACCESS

Staff from the Nova Scotia Provincial Library found time to relax during their stay in Seattle with a couple of other Canadian delegates.

From left to right, above, starting in the back row: Charlotte Janes, Annapolis Valley Regional Library; Angele Clavet from New Brunswick; Barry Shaw from British Columbia; Kerri LaFond, Halifax Regional Library; Rita Marman, Cape Breton Regional Library. Front row: Bob Moffat, Michael Vandenburg, Nova Scotia Provincial Library; Verna DeViller, Western Counties Regional Library; Carole Compton-Smith, Nova Scotia Provincial Library. Attending the week of training in Seattle certainly was an exciting, educational experience for the group who went as part of the requirements of the project.

Staff from the Nova Scotia Provincial Library and four regional libraries, along with staff from six other provinces, spent a week in training at the Gates Center for Technology Access in Seattle in preparation for receiving a grant from the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation.

A panel presentation by the Canadian Provincial Librarians included Elizabeth Armstrong, Acting Provincial Librarian, Nova Scotia Provincial Library (fourth from left).

All the participants were impressed with the level of organization and attention to detail that the Gates Center

staff displayed in all the planning they did to make the Canadian delegates' stay a pleasant one - from the flight arrangements, accommodations, lunches and text materials. One of the Nova Scotia team said "... everything was overwhelmingly impressive...a very strong example of what can be done when "budget concerns" are not an obstacle. I was also impressed with the average age of the Gates Center staff...a very young workforce. Their enthusiasm, dedication, and personable social skills were refreshing. I'm grateful that I had the opportunity to meet the staff from the other public libraries throughout the country...What a great group of people!"

Kerri LaFond, Computer Systems Administration, Halifax Regional Library, said that the Gates Foundation had just moved into a new building, so the facility was brand new with 1.5 million miles of cable. The Foundation has about two-thirds of the United States project complete and are working on Canada (i.e. the donation of pc's to the libraries).

Verna DeViller, Automation Trainer with the Western Counties Regional Library system, commented that she was struck by the impression that many U.S. libraries have to rely on the expertise of the Gates Help Desk for most of their technical questions, whereas many Canadian libraries seem to have good access to systems administrators.

Kevin Kierans, Manager of Library and Support Services Thompson-Nicola Regional District Library System, Kamloops, B.C., provided the photos which can be viewed at the Disseminator website for this issue.

COUNCIL OF YOUTH SERVICES MEETING

The Council had their first look at the design for the poster for Summer Reading Program 2000. Barry Donovan and Ray Whitley presented the design with a tall ship theme to tie in with Tall Ships 2000. The theme for the 2000 program is "Sail away with books". The Council is looking forward to some great T-shirts and other exciting promotional activities.

AUTOMATION WORKING GROUP MEETING

At the Automation Working Group Meeting (AWG) on November 26, plans were put in place for the next stage of the Gates initiative for funding for 56 libraries in Nova Scotia. That is, a timeline for project activities and sign off dates to enable funding to arrive in Nova Scotia for January, 2000. Comments from those who attended the Seattle session included an endorsement of the hardware and software to be provided by Gateway, the manufacturing partner in the project.

Another topic of importance was the requirement for all regional public libraries to contact the Department of Education's Y2K coordinator either January 1, 2, 3 or 4 to establish that all systems, library buildings, and library services are operational. This will be the final phase of the Y2K preparedness activity that has been ongoing all of this year.

LIBRARY PUBLIC AWARENESS (LPA) MEETING

Final revisions were made to the Regional Public Library Sponsorship Policy and Guidelines at the November meeting of the LPA Working Group. A form for evaluation of sponsorship activities is under development. The video *libraries: where the future begins* continues to prove valuable for promotion of regional public libraries. It has been used successfully at Colchester East-Hants at the youth fair, and by the Library Boards Association of Nova Scotia at their booth at the Union of Nova Scotia Municipalities conference. Other current group initiatives include revision of the Nova Scotia Regional Libraries brochure, coordinating ideas for Information Rights Week, and working with the Council on Youth Services on sponsorship for Summer Reading Program 2000.

INFORMATION ECONOMY INITIATIVE (IEI)

On May 29, 1998, a $62.1 million project was announced, the largest single information technology investment in Nova Scotia history. This project spans three years, and provides for information technology hardware, software, technical support and professional development for schools, universities and communities. This Information Economy Initiative is expected to have far reaching effects, strengthening the economy and the workforce, enriching the learning for students, attracting investment and connecting communities across the province. The Schools Component of the IEI is a $38 million initiative which will see 6,000 computers going into more than 181 secondary schools, and infrastructure support set up to ensure that all schools in the province are connected to the Internet.

Computers are being placed in schools through their School Boards, and are going to classrooms in "pods" which usually consist of four computers. Software is provided for the computers, with some titles included on all machines, and others selected from lists for specific subject areas. To date, approximately 1,960 machines have been delivered, with 1,656 more to be sent out before December 25,1999. The final roll out of machines will take place after April 1, 2000, with about 2,500 machines to be sent at that time. This injection of technology into the secondary schools is expected to provide a school-based training facility in more than 100 communities to stimulate the growth of IT-based service companies across Nova Scotia.

Students will acquire knowledge, skills and attitudes regarding information technology which are becoming necessary for the workplace and for advanced studies. Students in small rural schools will have greater access to specialized high school courses through distance education. Teachers will develop greater skills in IT related activities and classroom practices. Schools will be connected to the Internet, and all teachers and students will have access to E-mail. Communities will also benefit, not only from the increased technology available to the schools in the communities, but also through increased access to many services provided through the Internet. This initiative is an exciting project which will assist in making Nova Scotia highly competitive in the information technology markets for the 21st century. For more information regarding the IEI project, see the web site at http://lrt.Ednet.ns.ca./IEI-Schools/

NOVA SCOTIA PROVINCIAL LIBRARY NEWS

Staffing Notes

Pictured here are some of the many holiday crafts created by Dale MacMillan, User Services Section. When not dealing with Inter-Library Loans at Nova Scotia Provincial Library, Dale spends her spare time at home working on her crafts, and then brings samples in to work.

Johanna Cooper, Automation Specialist and the lead member of the NcompasS implementation, training and support team, has accepted a new position at Dal-Tech. She has made a significant contribution to regional library automation over the last several years. We wish her well in her new position at Dal-Tech.

Michael Vandenburg was recently appointed to a term position as Assistant Automation Specialist, or NcompasS trainer. This position is funded by NcompasS members. He will be "holding the fort" until a

replacement for Johanna Cooper, Automation Specialist, is recruited.

Nadine Day, recon cataloguer technician for Cape Breton Regional Library but working at Nova Scotia Provincial Library, has taken a position in document delivery at the Kellogg Health Sciences Library. Best wishes to Nadine on her new position.

Training Notes

Staff in the User Services Section of the Provincial Library conducted some training workshops in November 1999, including one session at the Cape Breton Regional Library. Frank Oram conducted a workshop on *Information Sources on Global Tourism* for five staff members of the Colchester-East Hants Regional Library on November 22. Both print and non-print sources were discussed. The emphasis of the session was on authoritative information sources available via the world wide web. Gillian Webster conducted three workshops on *Job Searching on the Web* to fourteen people, and one on Introduction to HTML for seven people. Carol Morris held two workshops for a total of thirteen people on *Sources of Company Information*, focusing on the Web resources available.

On October 14, Michael Vandenburg traveled to the Pictou-Antigonish Regional Library (PARL) in New Glasgow to conduct a "Paperbacks" training session. The training went smoothly, and patrons can look forward to easy access to PARL's paperbacks collection in the near future.

The last three regional libraries are now heavily involved in the implementation process of their MultiLIS projects. Cumberland Regional Library staff had their pre-implementation meeting, November 9, to begin establishing policies for their database. On November 15, Cape Breton Regional Library staff received training in adding items to their catalog. The plan for the year 2000 includes South Shore Regional Library implementing automated circulation early in the year, Cumberland Regional Library "unmasking" their bank (making it available for searching) in March, Eastern Counties Regional Library implementing automated circulation by Fall and Cape Breton Regional Library completing the process of adding item records by year end and providing barcoded patron cards.

The second year Library Technician Program class from the Halifax Campus, Nova Scotia Community College toured the Provincial Library facility on November 16 and received training on the reference databases and Web NcompasS. On November 24, the second year class from the Kingstec campus made a similar visit.

HOT TIPS & UPDATES

National Children's Book Week

The Hackmatack Children's Choice Book Award held a display at the Children's Book Week Gala on November 12, 1999, in the Maritime Museum of the Atlantic. The event marked an official start of the Children's Book Week and celebrated regional authors, illustrators, publishers and children's literacy organizations. This event, co-sponsored by the Ann Connor Brimer Award and the Nova Scotia Children's Literature Roundtable, featured the first "Ann Connor Brimer Keynote Address".

Budge Wilson (at the podium) was the keynote speaker, and she spoke eloquently on the fine quality of children's books produced in the region. Heather MacKenzie, Halifax Regional Library, sitting next to Budge, listens in. Budge emphasized the strong role that Ann Connor Brimer herself played in fostering awareness of children's books in the region and noted that Ann would be very proud to see how far we have come. Following the keynote address, several local writers including Sheree Fitch, Jane Baskwill, Sylvia Gunnery, Deborah Tobin and Shirley Woods shared their newest works with short readings.

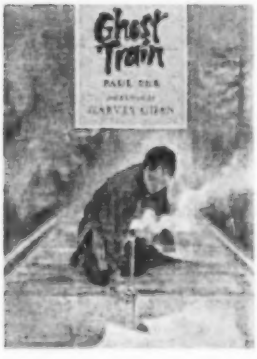
Hackmatack Award

The Hackmatack Children's Choice Book Award extends its deadline for registrations in this year's program. The new deadline is December 15, 1999. Young readers aged nine to twelve (grades 4, 5, and 6), are encouraged to read new Canadian and Atlantic Canadian books. Children participate as readers and judges in this award. Voting for the books of their choice will take place in April 2000. Plan now for the first Hackmatack Award Ceremony in Alderney Landing Theatre, Dartmouth, Nova Scotia, on Saturday, May 20, 2000. Watch for news on author tours in the week leading up to the ceremony! Contact Monika Sormova at: (902) 424-3774 or email hackmatack@hackmatack.ca for information.

Hackmatack Maniacs Run for Reading

The Halifax Regional Library is proud of the Hackmatack Maniacs – ten spirited runners who ran the 15th Annual Fall River Rum Runners Relay in aid of the 2000 Hackmatack Children's Choice Book Award. The team consisted of library staff members: Janice Fiander, Harold Gaudet, Sharon Keough, Troy Myers, Mary Smith, Lynn Somers, Sarah Wenning, and team captain, Nancy Warnica as well as Ed Hollet and Andrew Wenning who graciously joined the library squad. The energetic team ran the 105.2 km journey from Halifax to Lunenburg in 10 separate races of varying distances. Troy Myers began the race with an early 6:30 am start. The Lunenburg finish line was crossed at 6:30 pm by Harold Gaudet. Approximately $800 was raised.

Hackmatack Finalists on the Web



The Hackmatack Children's Choice Book Award is an Atlantic Canadian book award that allows children to choose their favourite Canadian and Atlantic Canadian books. In the October issue, we featured the third of six articles from each of the 1999-2000 Fiction Shortlist and the 1999-2000 Non-Fiction Shortlists. In this issue, the fiction title is *Ghost Train* by Paul Yee (Reading Level: Grade 4; Interest level 3 and up), and the non-fiction title is *Animal Smarts* by Sylvia Funston (Reading Level: Grade 4; Interest level 3 and up). Visit the Hackmatack page and read the book descriptions at or at visit the website at http://www.hackmatack.ca/books.html

Nova Scotia Archives and Records Management (NSARM) Web Site
Nova Scotia Archives and Records Management (Public Archives of Nova Scotia) has a completely redesigned web site, still at the old URL at http://www.nsarm.ednet.ns.ca The new site is larger, more flexible, and has been created with both genealogists and general researchers in mind. New on-line resources include NSARM*s first Virtual Exhibit, *Halifax and Its People / 1749-1999," developed to celebrate the 250th anniversary of the founding of Halifax. The exhibit presents some 150 images from the NSARM holdings, with accompanying captions and text. It has been designed as an on-line educational, research and general-interest tool.

The Canadian Health Network
The Canadian Health Network (consumer health information) funded by Health Canada was launched last week at http://www.canadian-health-network.ca/

REFERENCE ON THE NET

More reference questions referred to the Provincial Library by the Regional Public Libraries which were answered from resources found on the Internet.

Q. Would like information on damage done to the Cook islands during a severe storm on November 1, 1997.

A. Ask Jeeves, the natural language meta search site at http://www.askjeeves.com/ was used by entering the question "Would like information on the severe storm in the Cook Islands in November 1997". This led to the Storm News Archives - Reports from Previous Seasons at http://australianseverereweather.simplenet.com/storm_news/news.htm At this page click on "Index" to go to Storm News. From here follow these links: Tropical Cyclones\Previous Seasons and Historical Data - July 1997 to June 1998 Season - South Indian Ocean\Summaries and Track Data\November 1997 - Australian Summary. Scroll down until you come to "Tropical Cyclone Martin (TC-04P) 31 October-5 November". The search also led directly to an article titled "U.N., New Zealand Helps Out Cook Islands" from The Disaster Relief website at http://www.disasterrelief.org/

Q. Would like guidelines for and examples of a standard contract for a Canadian writer.

A. The Writers' Union of Canada web site at http://www.swifty.com/twuc/ has a section on "Contract Services for Non-Members" which has a Self Help Package for a fee which contains the publications "Model Trade-Book Contract" and "Help Yourself to a Better Contract". At the Writers' Federation of Nova Scotia site at http://www.chebucto.ns.ca/Culture/WFNS/ go to the "Resources" section and scroll down to "WFNS' information about Contracts". This page has lots of useful information about contracts. At Inkspot : The Writer's Resource site at http://www.inkspot.com/ site enter "contracts" in the search box. This turns up some pages which take you to some useful full-text articles on contracts:

Contracts: Top Ten Things to Negotiate and What's Not Worth Your Time By Laura Resnick http://www.ninc.com/tips/cntrt.asp *The Basics of Writing for Children* By Aaron Shepard: *4. Negotiating Your Contract* http://www.aaronshep.com/kidwriter/Basics4.html

Understanding Contracts by Moira Allen http://www.inkspot.com/feature/contracts.html an article on the InkSpot web site.

Previous "Reference on the Net" columns can be found in a file on the Reference Services page of the Provincial Library web site at http://www.library.ns.ca/provlib/brochure/refser.html

LINKed

Information & Resources

This month's column will focus on Gaelic sites on the Internet but first, with the year 2000 upon us, I would like to call your attention to the column on millennium web sites which was done in the November 1998 issue of *The Disseminator*. All of the sites discussed there are still going strong (with the exception of Talk 2000 at http://humnet.humberc.on.ca/talk2000.htm which is no longer available). The November 1998 column can be accessed at http://www.library.ns.ca/provlib/disseminator/index93_98/dissv5n11.html

Sabhal Mór Ostaig at http://www.smo.uhi.ac.uk/ is the web site for Scotland's Gaelic college on the island of Skye. The homepage is in Gaelic but there is "Information in English" which non-Gaelic speakers can click on. Here you will find links to a list of Gaelic learners' materials online at http://www.smo.uhi.ac.uk/gaidhlig/ionnsachadh/, Stòrdàta Briathrachais Gàidhlig, the Gaelic Terminology Database at http://www.smo.uhi.ac.uk/cgi-bin/sbg and Gàidhlig air an Lìon - everything Gàidhlig on the Web at http://www.smo.uhi.ac.uk/gaidhlig/gaidhlig.html There is also a link to Dictionary Search at http://www.ceantar.org/Dicts/search.html where four online Gaelic dictionaries can be searched and a page with information on Email lists devoted to speakers and learners of the Gaelic language at http://www.smo.uhi.ac.uk/liosta/#explanation

St. Francis Xavier University has the St.FX Celtic Society at http://www.stfx.ca/people/celtsoc/failte.htm with a good collection of links at http://www.stfx.ca/people/celtsoc/links.htm

The Gaelic Council of Nova Scotia at http://www.gaelic.net/novascotia/ is an attractive site where you will find a list of Gaelic Societies, Organizations and Contacts in Nova Scotia, Nova Scotia Gaelic Trivia and information on Gaelic language classes in Nova Scotia. Other resources are "Gaelic Place Names of Nova Scotia" which gives the English name with the Gaelic translation and an article titled "The Irish Language in Nova Scotia" by Cyril J. Byrne.

Am Bràighe at http://www.chatsubo.com/ambraighe/ is a journal devoted to the Scottish Gaelic language and culture which is published on Cape Breton Island. It has a listing of the contents of the back issues from Summer 1993 to Winter 1995, links to other Celtic sites and an Online Gaelic Discussion Forum.

Fulltext of *An Gaidheal Ur* which is the world's only all Gaelic newspaper is at http://an-gaidheal-ur.co.uk/ It is published in Scotland.

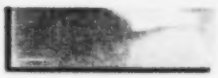
The Gaelic Cultural Studies site at http://ednet.ns.ca/educ/gaelic/index.html was put on the web by the Nova Scotia Department of Education to support teaching of Gaelic studies in high school and encourage revival and growth of Gaelic culture in Nova Scotia. In the "Teachers" section, the Resources page has a list of links to web sites and a bibliography of print material.

Previous "Linked" columns can be found in a file on the Reference Services page of the Provincial Library web site at http://www.library.ns.ca/provlib/brochure/refser.html If you have any suggestions about future topics for this column please contact Carol Morris at cmorris@nshpl.library.ns.ca

PROFESSIONAL READING

In this month's column are Neal-Schuman Publishers how-to-do-it manuals. These books should be of particular interest to public libraries. These items can be borrowed through the regular interlibrary loan channels - send email to Dale MacMillan at inshpl@nshpl.library.ns.ca

Mason, Florence M. And Dobson, Chris - **Information brokering: a how-to-do-it manual.** New York: Neal-Schuman, c1998. (Call # 025 .52 Mas) Today's explosion in



information resources and new technology is opening up opportunities for individuals to build businesses that provide and manage information. The authors of this hands-on guide provide advice on understanding what it takes to establish and operate an information brokering business, on developing and marketing your information service business and on finding sources and resources to guide your start up. It is their hope that this book will help prepare you for both the opportunities and the responsibilities that will face you as an entrepreneur.

Thomsen, Elizabeth - **Reference and collection development on the internet: a how-to-do-it manual.** New York: Neal-Schuman Publishers, c1996.
The author states that the purpose of this book is to give reference and collection development librarians a sense of the internet as a community of individuals and organizations who share information through online conversations and online resources. The primary focus is on resources that are new and evolving and reflect the populist nature of the internet. This book attempts to address the essential need for collections librarians to build and organize collections of resources for their patrons whether the collections are print, media, online, or a complex combination.